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1.

days

worked a year in the Polish coal mines

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Work proceeds uninterrupted for 365 days, including Sundays and holidays. Individual miners customarily work two out of three consecutive Sundays. There are three shifts of nine hours each; during one three-hour period, generally from 6 a m to 9 a m, the work complement is doubled.

2.

Shortages of skilled and technically trained personnel are widespread and severe. In order to increase the pool of trained personnel, considerable efforts are made to recruit young men for mining schools. Recruiting drives are particularly frequent in the rural areas of what is now Eastern Poland. To the prospective recruit who feels that he has little opportunity for advancing himself in his home region, promises of life-time careers in a well-paid industry after a study period financed by the Government sound quite attractive. Mining schools, known as Szkola Przysposobienia Przemyslowego (SPP), are established in many caties, especially in Silesia. Most of the students are 16 to 20 years of age. attend courses three days a week and work the other three weekdays. They receive Government stipsmids for the school training. In addition to mining, the training includes political subjects. The curriculum calls for two years' study. During this period, many students become disillusioned about the mining career under present circumstances and escape back to their homes. In order to fill the ranks of unskilled miners, civilian prisoners are frequently sent to the mines. Only those prisoners serving sentences from one to five years are selected for this purpose; those serving longer sentences are excluded because escapes are relatively easy and presumably frequent. Prisoners are paid one-third the customary wages and use this money to make purchases in stores conveniently located near the mines. "Political" prisoners assigned to work in the mines are housed in special camps.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

Poland has a number of factories manufacturing mining machinery; one such factory is situated at Katowice.

Poland is in a position to produce many general types of machinery and has to lean on Czechoslovakia and the USSR only for imports of special equipment.

25X1

25X1

8.

coal moved from the face to the shaft

Mostly by rubber conveyer belt. Poland.

these belts are manufactured in

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25X1

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9. Information

on the coke plant at Gliwice.

This plant was to have five batteries with 174 ovens in operation by 1952. The layout is as follows:

Battery No 1 28 ovens
Battery No 2 28 ovens
Battery No 3 48 ovens
Battery No 4 35 ovens
Battery No 5 35 ovens

174 ovens.

The capacity is 15 tons a day for each oven, which gives the coke plant an approximate maximum capacity of 2,600 tons per day. The actual capacity is 2,300 tons of coke per day, including the fifth bettery. Initial burning of the fifth bettery was started in October 1951; it was scheduled to be in full operation in 1952. Coal for the coking plant was furnished by mines at (1) Gliwice, (2) Sosnica, and (3) Zabrze Wschod; coal from these three mines was mixed and ground. By-products are

ammonium sulphete - .8% of coal imput

benzol

- 1% of soal imput

ter

- 3.5% of scal input.

- end -

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